

**FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM  
GRANT APPLICATION**

*(please fill in the highlighted areas)*

**I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

- A. Applicant Name: Big Blackfoot Chapter of Trout Unlimited
- B. Mailing Address: PO Box 1
- C. City: Ovando State: MT Zip: 59854
- Telephone: 406-240-4824
- D. Contact Person: Rylen Neudecker
- Address if different from Applicant:
- City:  State:  Zip:
- Telephone:
- E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name  
(if other than Applicant): United States Forest Service-Amber Kamps District Ranger
- Mailing Address: 1569 US HWY 200
- City: Lincoln State: MT Zip: 59639
- Telephone: 406.362.7000

**II. PROJECT INFORMATION\***

- A. Project Name: Klondike Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project
- River, stream, or lake: Klondike Creek
- Location: Township 15N Range 9W Section 32
- County: Lewis and Clark
- B. Purpose of Project:  
The purpose of this project is to address an undersized culvert on Klondike Creek that blocks migration corridors for native trout during high flow periods and creates impairments to the channel.
- C. Brief Project Description:

Klondike Creek is a second-order tributary to Beaver Creek and supports fluvial, genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout. Beaver Creek is a high priority tributary as outlined in Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks "Integrated Stream Restoration and Native Fish Conservation Strategy for 182 stream in the Blackfoot Basin, Montana". This project has been identified as a priority under the ***Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program***—a program identified in 2009 by the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. This project will address the existing stream crossing near stream-mile 0.14 on the United States Forest Service properties that is undersized, impedes fish passage during high flow periods and creates impairments to the channel. The existing 48" culvert is proposed to be replaced with a precast, pre-stressed tri-deck concrete bridge on concrete footings that will allow uninhibited aquatic organism passage and replicate the stream bed up and down stream of the crossing.

The existing undersized culvert on Klondike Creek causing channel impairment and depression of migratory life histories is proposed to be replaced with a bridge following Stream Simulation methods and principles that will result in a stable stream crossing that will correct the current road drainage problems, eliminate delivery of excessive sediment, provide for fish passage and restore the natural channel morphology to the site. A basic topographic and hydraulic field survey was conducted to locate key physical features within the area of the existing culvert. A long profile, stream cross-sections, bankfull widths, and general geomorphologic parameters were collected. The new structure dimensions were sized based on stream characteristics collected from the reference reach and hydraulic analysis. The hydraulic capacity of the structure was analyzed to ensure that it satisfies a 100-year flood event. Reference reach data collected indicated that bankfull width is close to 8 feet. To meet Stream Simulation guidelines, our new structure width will be 34' long to accommodate bankfull and an appropriate floodplain. Please refer to attached map, photos and design.

D. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated:

The existing undersized culvert near stream mile 0.14 will be replaced to restore connectivity to 2.9 miles of Klondike Creek.

E. Project Budget:

**Grant Request (Dollars):** \$ **26,000**

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): \$ In-kind \$ 4,800  
(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): \$ 128,902.50 In-kind \$  
(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

**Total Project Cost:** \$ **159,702.50**

F. Attach itemized (line item) budget – see template

G. Attach specific project plans, detailed sketches, plan views, photographs, maps, evidence of landowner consent, evidence of public support, and/or other information necessary to evaluate the merits of the project. If project involves water leasing or water salvage complete supplemental questionnaire ([fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc](http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc)).

H. Attach land management and maintenance plans that will ensure protection of the reclaimed area.

### III. PROJECT BENEFITS\*

- A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?:

Westslope cutthroat trout

- B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?:

Habitat conditions within Klondike Creek are good with low levels of disturbance along the streambank and relatively low levels of fine sediment in stream gravels used for spawning. Upgrading of undersized stream crossing structures and reducing risk of structure failure will not only provide for complete aquatic organism passage but will reduce risk for further increases in sediment levels in portions of Klondike Creek and Beaver Creek.

- C. Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?:

Yes, by providing off-site recruitment to the Blackfoot River and angling opportunities on-site. Beaver Creek/Klondike Creek enters a portion of the Blackfoot River that receives high angling pressure.

- D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?:

Yes, by increasing wild trout habitat in the Blackfoot River drainage. The public also has legal streamside access via adjacent USFS lands.

- E. If the project requires maintenance, what is your time commitment to this project?:

The USFS has committed to maintaining the bridge for their life expectancy. The proposed bridge structure will be essentially maintenance-free structures and the life expectancy is estimated at 75 to 100 years.

- F. What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project correct the cause?:

Already answered.

- G. What public benefits will be realized from this project?:

This project involves the continuation of the Blackfoot River Restoration program and the restoration of a westslope cutthroat stream. Public benefits include: 1) recruitment of recreational fisheries to the Blackfoot River, 2) improved water quality (sediment reductions) on-site and downstream, and 3) contribute to the recovery of a species of special concern.

- H. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

No

- I. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site?: (explain):

No

- J. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?:

No

**Each approved project sponsor must enter into a written agreement with the Department specifying terms and duration of the project.**

**IV. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT**

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature:

Date:

Sponsor (if applicable):

**\*Highlighted boxes will automatically expand.**

**Mail To:**

**Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Habitat Protection Bureau  
PO Box 200701  
Helena, MT 59620-0701**

**Incomplete or late applications will be returned to applicant.**

**Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.**

**\*\*\*Applications may be submitted at anytime, but must be received by the Future Fisheries Program office in Helena before December 1 and June 1 of each year to be considered for the subsequent funding period.\*\*\***





Photos 1-2: Existing outlet and inlet on stream crossing structure near stream-mile 0.14 on Klondike Creek.